

United States Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Washington, D.C. 20250

SENIOR EXECUTIVE SERVICE RECRUITMENT ANNOUNCEMENT

Vacancy Announcement Number: APHIS-SES-06-05

Position (Title/Series): Director, Investigative and Enforcement Services, ES-301

Organization, Location/Duty Station:

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Marketing and Regulatory Programs-Business Services
Investigative and Enforcement Services
Riverdale, MD

Opening Date: July 17, 2006

Closing Date: August 17, 2006

Area of Consideration:

"All Qualified Persons"

For more information contact:

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USDA, Marketing & Regulatory Programs/
Human Capital Planning Branch/Room 1726-S
Telephone: 202-720-3010/202-690-3014

SENIOR EXECUTIVE SERVICE

This position is in the Senior Executive Service (SES), Career Reserved. Only one position will be filled under this announcement. Positions in the SES are not graded. The salary range is \$109,808 - \$165,200 per annum. SES employees are also eligible for bonuses and awards based on performance. Veteran's preference is not applicable to the SES. Selectee is subject to a one-year probationary period, unless currently serving under an SES appointment. Visit www.opm.gov/ses for additional information and benefits for SES employees.

WHY WORK FOR APHIS: The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is a dynamic, innovative agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. APHIS is responsible for protecting and promoting U.S. agricultural health, administering the Animal Welfare Act and carrying out wildlife damage management activities. Marketing and Regulatory Programs-Business Services provides resource management and administrative services to support the objectives of the three Marketing and Regulatory Programs agencies--the Agricultural Marketing Service, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, and the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration.

APHIS is an emergency response agency. This means that all Agency employees may be asked or assigned to participate in rotating temporary duty assignments to support emergency programs at some time during their careers with APHIS. It is difficult to predict the frequency with which such emergency situations may occur- and could range from several emergencies in a year to none the course of many years. In the event that you are called upon to support an emergency program, this may require irregular working hours, and may include duties other than those specified in your official position description. While some emergency program support assignments may be able to be performed at the employee's current duty station, in other cases employees may be asked to go on-site to a temporary duty station location. In addition, it may be necessary for employees to participate in multiple rotations to an emergency program assignment. Attempts will be made to keep disruption to the employee to a minimum. To learn more about our agency, our exciting mission, vision, and guiding principles, please visit www.aphis.usda.gov.

Duties include: As the Director of the Investigative and Enforcement Services (IES), the incumbent participants fully with the Administrator, Associate Administrator, Deputy Administrators and other senior key officials within the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) and Marketing and Regulatory Programs in planning, developing and implementing programs in the purview of IES. The incumbent coordinates and integrates the IES programs and operations primarily with other units in APHIS, but also with other United States Department of Agriculture agencies, other Federal or State agencies and outside organizations or intuitions. The incumbent is responsible for a field force of investigators located nationwide and responsible for investigating incidents and potential violations of the myriad of Agency program regulations, enforcing quarantines, and tracking animals, plants and agricultural products that may be infected or exposed to foreign pests or diseases. The incumbent is independently responsible for resolving violations with warnings, civil penalties or formal administrative or criminal prosecution. The incumbent participates with top Agency and Department officials in formulating and implementing technical and administrative policies and programs within the framework and guidance of Departmental policies. The incumbent is primarily responsible for planning and formulating policy for APHIS programs that promote compliance with and enforcement of animal and plant health inspection laws and regulations. The incumbent is the Agency's primary enforcement liaison for the Agriculture Quarantine and Inspection activities and works closely with the Department of Homeland Security's Customs and Border Protection and Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the Food and Drug Administration and other agencies in carrying out the missions of this program.

A. EXECUTIVE CORE QUALIFICATIONS – Please address these Executive Core Qualifications (ECQs). Detailed information on the ECQs and Key Characteristics may be found at: www.opm.gov/ses/handbook.html.

ECQ 1 LEADING CHANGE – encompasses the ability to develop and implement an organizational vision which integrates key national and program goals, priorities, values and other factors. Inherent to it is the ability to balance change and continuity—to continually strive to improve customer service and program performance within the basic Government framework, to create a work environment that encourages creative thinking, and to maintain focus, intensity and persistence, even under adversity.

Leadership Competencies: Continual Learning, Creativity & Innovation, External Awareness, Flexibility, Resilience, Service Motivation, Strategic Thinking, Vision

ECQ 2 LEADING PEOPLE – Involves the ability to design and implement strategies which maximize employee potential and foster high ethical standards in meeting the organization's vision, mission, and goals. Please be sure to describe your accomplishments in Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) and/or Civil Rights. This includes opportunities provided to minorities and women to receive grants and/or contracts, employment and advancement, training, award recognition, and program benefits.

Leadership Competencies: Conflict Management, Leveraging Diversity, Integrity/Honesty, Team Building

ECQ 3 RESULTS DRIVEN – Stresses accountability and continuous improvement. It includes the ability to make timely and effective decisions and produce results through strategic planning and implementation and evaluation of programs and policies.

Leadership Competencies: Accountability, Customer Service, Decisiveness, Entrepreneurship, Problem Solving, Technical Credibility

ECQ 4 BUSINESS ACUMEN – Involves the ability to acquire and administer human, financial, material, and information resources in a manner which instills public trust and accomplishes the organization's mission and to use new technology to enhance decision making.

Leadership Competencies: Financial Management, Human Resources Management, Technology Management

ECQ 5 BUILDING COALITIONS/COMMUNICATION – Involves the ability to explain, advocate, and express facts and ideas in a convincing manner, and negotiate with individuals and groups internally and externally. It also involves the ability to develop an expansive professional network with other

organizations, and to identify the internal and external politics that impact the work of the organization.

Leadership Competencies: Influencing/Negotiating, Interpersonal Skills, Oral Communication, Partnering, Political Savvy, Written Communication

B. MANDATORY TECHNICAL QUALIFICATION (all applicants must address):

1. Describe your experience that demonstrates your ability to plan, develop, and administer an integrated enforcement, investigative, and compliance program designed to ensure integrity, effectiveness, and public confidence in an organization's activities. (Provide examples of your experience in conducting reviews, audits, evaluations, investigations, or compliance activities).
2. Describe your experience that demonstrates your ability to develop cooperative relationships and activities with associates, subordinates, Department officials, and multiple levels of Federal, State, and local agencies and with foreign officials in order to enhance the effectiveness of investigation and enforcement activities.

C. Education Requirements

Applicants must have one year of specialized experience at or comparable to experience gained in the Federal Service at the GS-14/15 level which is directly related to the line of work of the position to be filled and which has equipped the applicants with the particular knowledge, skills, and abilities to successfully perform the duties of the position.

HOW TO APPLY -- All applicants are required to submit the following information. The initial competition and identification of candidates to be interviewed will be made solely on the basis of this material. Candidates who do not submit complete packages as indicated below will not be considered.

1. Submit an application (Resume, OF-612, Optional Application for Federal Employment, or any other written format you choose to describe your job related qualifications). Your resume should contain the information outlined in the booklet, "Applying for a Federal Job (OF-510)." See OF-510 at: www.opm.gov/forms/pdfimage/of0510.pdf. See OF-612 at: www.opm.gov/forms/pdfimage/of0612.pdf.
2. Submit a Supplemental Applicant Statement which addresses **EACH** of the ECQs and technical qualifications individually. Please include your name and the vacancy announcement number on each page of the supplemental applicant statement. The purpose of this statement is to provide you, as an applicant, the opportunity to elaborate on your experience, training, and specifically, significant achievements which relates to the ECQs and technical qualifications being used to identify the best qualified candidates for this vacancy. DO NOT simply repeat entries from other parts of your application package. Please provide complete responses to executive core and

technical qualifications. Visit www.opm.gov/ses/writingstate.html for additional guidance on writing your Supplemental Applicant Statement. When addressing the five ECQs the total length of your statement must not exceed 10 pages. Please structure your responses to the ECQs in terms of the action taken, context of environment in which the action was taken, and the outcome or results from such action.

3. If you are a Senior Executive Service Candidate Development Program graduate, submit proof of the Office of Personnel Management's certification and a narrative statement addressing only the mandatory technical qualifications.
4. If you are a current or former SES member, submit documentation of SES status and a narrative statement addressing only the mandatory technical qualifications.
5. Submit a copy of your most recent performance appraisal or a statement from you, self-certifying that your most recent appraisal or current performance is at least "Fully Successfully."

TO APPLY: Send the application package described above to:
USDA, Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service
Marketing & Regulatory Programs-Business Services
Human Capital Planning Branch
Attention: Tracey H. Brown
1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Room 1726-S
Washington, DC 20250

Please be sure to include the announcement number on your application. Application, performance appraisal and supplemental information must have arrived at the "Contact" address above by the closing date of August 17, 2006.

DUE TO MAIL COMPLICATIONS, WE STRONGLY ENCOURAGE APPLICANTS TO FAX APPLICATIONS TO (202) 720-5703, OR DELIVER THEIR APPLICATIONS TO THE ABOVE ADDRESS. TO CHECK ON THE STATUS OF YOUR APPLICATION, CALL (202) 720-3010 OR (202) 690-3014.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

1. This position is covered under the post-employment restriction of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (P.L. 95-521). This law also requires the selectee to file an Executive Personnel Financial Disclosure Report (Standard Form 278), within 30 days of appointment.
2. Applications sent in U.S. Government postage-paid envelope and submitted through Federal Agency courier services will not be considered.

3. Male applicants born after December 31, 1959, must be registered with the Selective Service System before they can be employed by an executive agency of the Federal government. This requirement does not apply to Agency employees appointed before November 8, 1985.
4. The 1993 Hatch Act Reform Amendments prohibit oral and written political recommendations for Federal jobs.
5. All application forms are subject to the provisions of the Privacy Act and become the property of USDA.
6. **SECURITY CLEARANCE:** Continued service in this position is subject to a satisfactory background investigation.
7. **DRUG TESTING:** Incumbent of this position may be required to submit to urinalysis to screen for illegal drug use on an ongoing basis after appointment, as directed.
8. **LETTERS OF REFERENCE:** Selectee may be required to submit 2 letters of recommendation.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT

Consideration for competitive selection for this position is open to all persons within the area of consideration who meet the basic qualifications. Race, color, age, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, political beliefs, religion, marital or family status, disability, and other nonmerit factors will not be considered.

EVALUATION METHOD

Applicants who meet the mandatory requirements in items A (Executive Core Qualifications), and B (Mandatory Technical Qualifications) above will be considered qualified for this position. Rating and ranking to determine the **"best qualified"** will be conducted by a panel of experts and will be based upon consideration of the degree to which applicants meet the mandatory knowledge, skills, and abilities described in items A and B. Interviews and qualifications inquiries may be required. The executive core qualifications of the selectee are subject to prior approval by the Office of Personnel Management Qualifications Review Board. When reviewing Executive Core Qualifications Statements, the Qualifications Review Board is looking for specific challenges, actions, and results.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is an Equal Opportunity Employer. USDA prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication or program information (Braille, large print, audiotope, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD).

Reasonable Accommodation: This agency provides reasonable accommodations to applicants with disabilities. If you need a reasonable accommodation for any part of the application and hiring process, please notify the agency at (202) 720-3010 or (202) 690-3014. The decision on granting reasonable accommodation will be on a case-by-case basis.